



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masao MURADE

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 09/810,615

Examiner: M. Ton

Filed: March 19, 2001

Docket No.: 040342.02

For: AN APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING LIGHT SHIELDING IN A LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY (AS AMENDED)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the March 19, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 34-41, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

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Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: April 10, 2003

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